'Chaos' seen at state Democratic caucuses

What used to take voters in the Mich-igan Democratic primary less than a minute will take state Democratic Par-ty members most of Saturday to com-plete. The task is casting a preference vote for a Democratic Party candidate for president to determine how many of the state's 141 delegates each candi-date will precise.

te will receive.
"Chaos and confusion" are predicted

youe veteran Democrat.

Voting will be completed in nearly
90 congressional district and county
caucuses throughout the state Satur-

day.

Only those who signed Democratic Party membership cards by Feb. 26 or are precinct delegates will be eligible to vote in the caucuses. More than 41,000 statewide are eligible.

UNLESS YOU'VE been asleep since last fall, you know the two major can-didates — President Jimmy Carter and U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy, of Massa-

U.S. Sen. Edward Reinewy, ut resease-chusetts.

The caucuses will begin at 11 a.m. and may last into the early evening. District caucuses covering southern Oakland and western Wayne counties will meet at the following locations:

*The 17th, including the Farmington area, Southfield and Redford Town-hip —Mercy College Conference Center, 2200 W. Outer Drive at Southfield, De-troit.

troit.

• The 18th, including Troy — Retail Store Employees hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, Madison Heights.

• The 19th, including the Birmingham-Bloomfield area, West Bloomfield and western Rochester — Seaholm High School Auditorium, Cranbrook and Liesche Birmingham. High School Augustan. and Lincoln, Birmingham.

Tve got a feeling it's right down the middle at this point. I think Carter will take the State of Michigan. By how many delegates? I'm not Second District Democratic Chairman Or-

complex — and lengthy — system for dividing the 141 delegates.

There's no "winner take all" rule uness a candidate receives at least one vote.

A candidate must receive at least 15
percent of a district vote. If a candipercent of the vote, however, to gain

ville Tungate (left). date's margin of victory in a district is less than 90 percent, the second-leading candidate receives at least one vote.

There's a 40 percent quorum required for the caucuses, meaning caucus voters must remain at the polling place until the delegates are elected.

ONE CRITIC of the caucus system, Aldo Vagnozzi, of Farmington Hills, predicted, "Chaos and confusion are going to win."

Vagnozzi, a 17th District coordinator for the Kennedy campaign, expects the Massachusetts senator to do well in

Oakland County, but added: "I don't think you're going to see any swings one way or the other across the state." Second District Democratic Chair-man Orville Tungate, of Plymouth Township, predicted the vote in the Wayne County portion of the second will be even.

will be even.

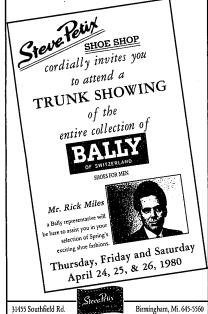
"Twe got a feeling it's right down the middle at this point," said Tungate, a Carter supporter.

"I think Carter will take the State of Michigan. By how many delegates? I'm not sure."



ment.
But with only "declared Democrats" voting in the caucuses comes a more







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